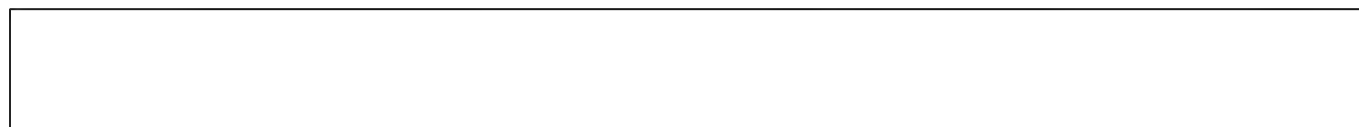




CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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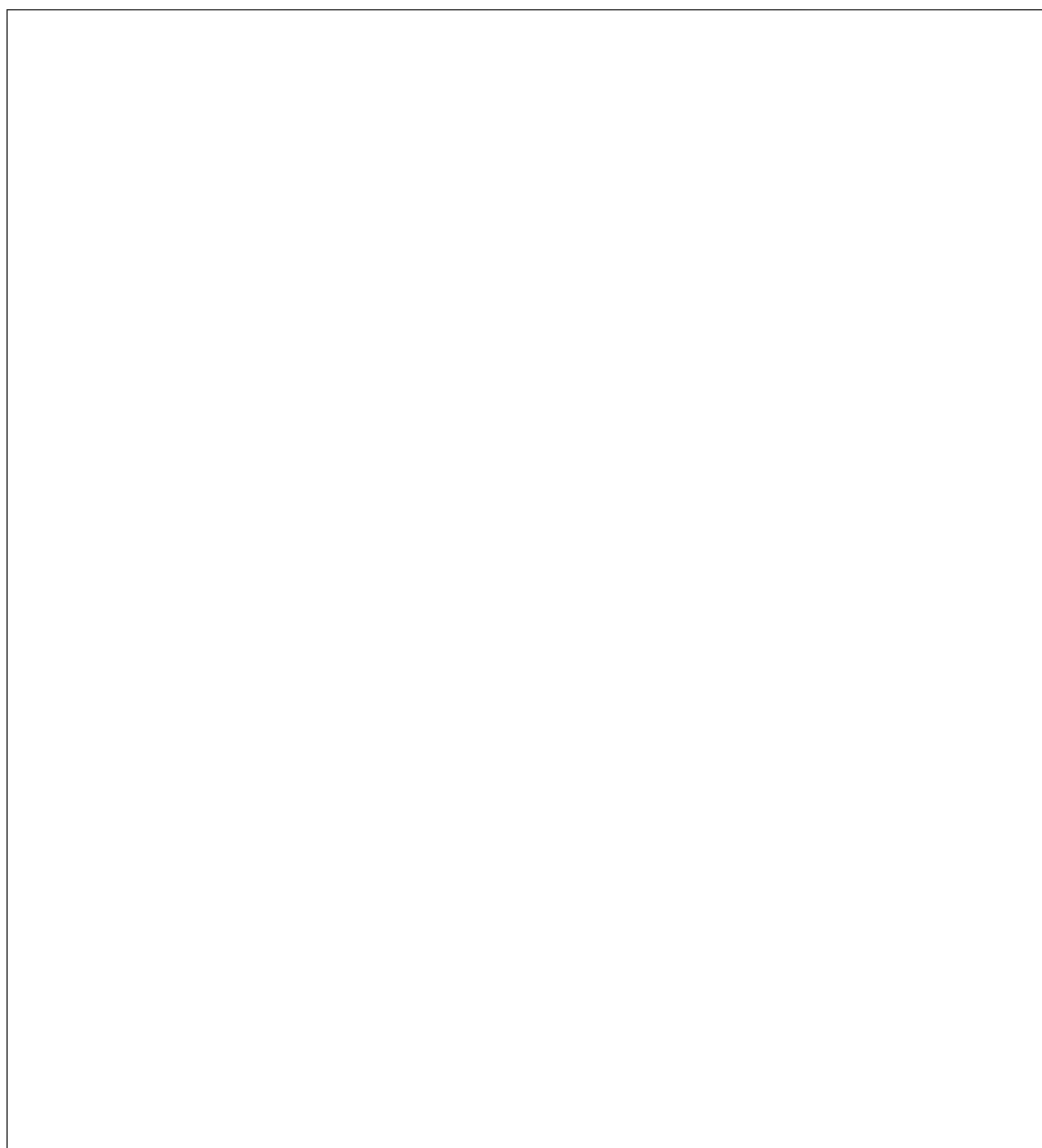
3 DECEMBER 1964

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DAILY BRIEF
3 DECEMBER 1964

1. South Vietnam

The agitation in Saigon has eased for the moment, but Buddhist leaders are setting themselves for a broader effort against Premier Huong. Tri Quang arrived in Saigon yesterday to make plans with other Buddhist leaders. Students in Hue appear ready to demonstrate soon.

2. Congo

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[redacted] there are signs that the military situation in and around Stanleyville may be slightly improved. [redacted]

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3. British Guiana

Jagan's party has been pouring money and effort into next Monday's election, and the outcome will be close. The most likely upshot is continued political instability and racial strife. [redacted]

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4. Italy

The reciprocal trade offices to be opened next month in Rome and Peiping are to have quasi-diplomatic status.

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5. UAR

Cairo is sending a high-level economic delegation to Moscow tomorrow and on to Peiping some time later. The financial problems of the Egyptians appear to be reaching crisis proportions.

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6. Algeria

A Soviet vessel with 12 crated IL-28s on deck cleared the Bosphorus [redacted] for Algeria [redacted]

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7. USSR

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8. MLF

Current NATO attitudes are at Annex.

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ANNEX

MLF: A Review of Current NATO Attitudes

The sharp divisions of opinion in Europe over MLF show little signs of lessening.

The UK: In talks with Undersecretary Ball early this week, the British evinced dislike for the project as it is presently envisaged. Although Prime Minister Wilson himself did not really tip his hand, the British now appear strongly opposed to any addition to NATO's nuclear forces, particularly because of the cost. They would prefer merely to contribute their own existing or planned nuclear forces. They tentatively accept the principle of mixed-manning, but are against the mixed-manned surface fleet itself. They insist that the US veto be guaranteed. In turn, they seek some share in control of the US deterrent for themselves and other NATO members.

West Germany: There is great uneasiness in Bonn over Wilson's intention. The Foreign Ministry has told London that the mixed-manned concept should be maintained and the 25-ship surface fleet not greatly reduced. The Germans object to the inclusion of European land-based nuclear systems in any multilateral force and oppose the subordination of that force to a commander other than SACEUR. The Germans would accept a UK contribution of Polaris submarines, but ask that these be mixed-manned eventually. Thus, the Erhard government continues to display constructive support for the MLF.

Italy:

the Moro government publicly approves "in principle." At this time, however, it is problematic whether the center-left coalition would be politically able to sign an MLF treaty and survive.

France: the French continue to voice their vigorous opposition. De Gaulle, who terms MLF "militarily unfeasible" and "inimical" to France, repeated to Ambassador Bohlen last week the view that Europe's relationship to the US has fundamentally changed since NATO was established. De Gaulle has made recent public references to a European defense organization, and he may be considering proposing some alternative to the MLF. Yesterday, Pompidou said France is ready to work for an integrated European defense, but scorned any "supranational" agency to control a European deterrent.

The others: Both Spaak and Luns favor the MLF. Neither, however, seems willing to force the issue. Turkey recently said it was no longer interested in joining but remains in the working group. So does Greece, but Athens is preoccupied with other matters, like Cyprus.

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